Horace Mather,
May 16, 1893,

Camp Septr 4th 1778

Sir Affairs this Way remain much in the same Situation, as when I wrote you last. A Body of the Enemy have sail'd from N. York, I trust for Rhode island; Whither they push your way or return this, I think you must be satisfied before this Time.

A small party of our light Troops had a little Skirmish with, one of the Enemy's Scouts, the Enemy fled with some Loss, but upon the return of our Party the Enemy laid an Ambush, surprised & took a Captain & fourteen Privates, besides killing twenty of our Indians, — whom they gave no quarter. The Indians swear Revenge, & have Liberty to take it: we may now Expect for the first Time to see some scalps. —

Some Time ago I gave you my Sentiments very freely concerning Genl. Lee, (or rather the Sentiments of others) I can now inform you, that his Trial is over & that he is suspended for twelve Months, I hear of an Action at R. Island, but can learn no particulars; If Affairs look dubious your Way, I guess, two or three Brigades will march that way.

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It is very surprising we don.t hear. The last Letter, which was receiv.d from Genl. Sullivan, was dated 29th August. A Board of Genl. Officers have been sitting three Days successively; I guess to determine on sending Troops your Way (as that seems to be the main Object) but suppose Nothing will come to light, till particulars come from R. Island.

Our Army are in fine Spirits, & I can wish for Nothing more, than that the Enemy may look us in the Face, but believe they were too sensible of our good Discipline at Monmouth, to try us again. The present Manoeuvres of the Enemy, as well of British Blunderers, is misterios; but my Opinion is that we shall have none of them on this Continent by Octobr. —

I am very Anxious to hear from your Daughter Nabby, as the last, Intelligence was by no means encouraging.

I am with the greatest Respect
to you & your Family
Yr — Jos. Crocker

Camp Sept 4. 1778.

Rev.d Saml. Mather D.D.

Boston

RW 579(2)